(b) if so, the details thereof together with the number of members in the concerned survey team;

(c) whether the said team has submitted a report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir. However, regular environmental monitoring for air, water and noise pollution is carried out by WCL in all their mines and reports are submitted to State and Central authorities.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

Coal Mines in the country

309. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details regarding the number of mines in the country,

(b) the State-wise details regarding the number of mines closed/ abandoned during the last three years;

(c) the total number of workers who lost their jobs due to the closure/ abandonment of mines during the above period,

(d) whether Government have any revival package to modernise the mines in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The number of working coal mines in the country State-wise, as on 01.04.2004 is given below:—

State	Number of mines
West Bengal	100
Jharkhand	173
Madhya Pradesh	72
Uttar Pradesh	3
Chhattisgarh	54
Maharashtra	51

State	Number of mines
Orissa	24
Assam	6
Meghalaya	1
Andhra Pradesh	67
Jammu & Kashmir	4
TOTAL	555

(b) The total number of mines closed/abandoned, State-wise during the last three years is as under:—

State	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02
West Bengal	1	—	—
Jharkhand	2	5	—
Madhya Pradesh	2	4	3
Chhattisgarh	1	—	2
Maharashtra	—	—	2
Andhra Pradesh	—	2	2
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	1
TOTAL	6	11	10

(c) No worker has lost job due to closure of these mines.

(d) and (e) The decision to close coal mines is taken by the coal companies on basis of parameters such as exhaustion of coal reserves, economic viability, and safety consideration, and technical feasibility of coal mines. Revival of such mines is, therefore, not feasible. However, the following steps have been taken for mechanization/modernization of the existing opencast/underground mines.

(i) A study has been made by Coal Mines Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) in this respect in consultation with the subsidiaries companies of Coal India Limited. Out of 305 existing underground mines, 96 mines are already mechanized and out of remaining 209 mines, 110 mines have been found feasible for modernization/mechanization.

(ii) All new mines are being planned with mechanization.

(iii) CIL has engaged CMPDIL to draw a long term road map for modernization of mines of CIL.

(f) Does not arise in view of answer given to part (d) & (e) above.